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Impact of structured Training Interventions on Jumping ability and Flexibility in Basketball

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Abstract

The primary objective of this research was to explore the effects of selected physical exercises on the flexibility and vertical jump performance of basketball players. The study aimed to analyze how flexibility enhancing exercises influenced the players' range of motion, thereby potentially improving their execution of essential basketball movements. Additionally, the study examined the role of jump-focused exercises in enhancing athletes' ability to execute complex skills that demand precision, timing, coordination, and motor control. A comparative analysis of pre- and post-training flexibility and jumping ability was conducted to determine the effectiveness of the exercise regimen. Based on the outcomes, the research aimed to propose guidelines for integrating flexibility and jump-training exercises into routine basketball practice to boost performance and reduce the likelihood of injuries.

No significant improvement was observed from certain selected exercises on the flexibility and jumping ability of the basketball players. Participants were chosen from Guru Kashi University, and the study was limited to male athletes aged 18 to 25 years. A total of 60 players were selected using random sampling. The study was confined to the academic year 2023-2024 and 2024-2025. Data collection tools included the Sit and Reach Test for flexibility and Vertical Jump for Jumping, both administered before and after the training period. A t-test was used for statistical analysis at a 0.05 significance level. Results showed significant improvement in flexibility and jumping ability within the experimental group.

Keywords: Basketball players, Flexibility, Jumping and Specific training

Introduction

With the advancement of sports science, nations are striving to cultivate elite athletes capable of achieving success at international competitions. Considerable research is now focused on identifying predictive factors of high athletic performance, supported by appropriate training methodologies. These exercises, often termed explosive or power-driven exercises, are essential in modern athletic development.

Team sports, which involve more than two players per side such as football or handball require constant interaction and adaptation based on the opposition's gameplay. Even

athletes from individual or dual sports may contribute to a team's cumulative score based on individual performance.

Basketball, a globally popular team sport, is ranked among the top competitive games in many nations. Core basketball skills include serving, receiving, and passing, all of which are crucial for enhancing overall gameplay. The sport offers extensive opportunities to develop attributes such as flexibility, speed, agility, power, reaction time, balance, muscular strength, endurance, and coordination. Recognizing the importance of leg and arm strength in basketball, the researcher chose to investigate how physical training influences players' flexibility and vertical jump

capabilities.

It was hypothesized that exercise interventions would lead to improvements in both flexibility and jumping ability. The study was limited to 30 male basketball players aged 18–25 years. Factors like motivational techniques, socio-economic background, and diet were not considered in the scope of this study.

Participants were selected from intercollegiate basketball players at Guru Kashi University using a simple random sampling method. The 30 selected athletes were equally divided into two matched groups based on their pre-test results: an Experimental Group and a Control Group. Flexibility and jumping ability were assessed using the Sit and Reach Test and the Vertical Jump Test, respectively, before and after the intervention. Statistical analysis revealed significant improvements in both parameters within the experimental group, supporting the original hypothesis.

Table 1: Week 1 and Week 6 Flexibility and Coordination Exercises

Days	Exercise	Set	Repetition	Set Rest
Monday To Saturday	1. Trunk Twisting	1 Min.	5	2 Min.
	2. Rope Skipping	1 Min.	5	2 Min.
	3. Shoulder and Chest Stretch	1 Min.	5	2 Min.
	4. Zig-Zag Running	1 Min.	5	2 Min.
	5. Alternative Toe Touch	1 Min.	5	2 Min.
	6. Hip Stretch	1 Min.	5	2 Min.
	7. Hamstring stretch	1 Min.	5	2 Min.

To evaluate the impact of a training program on flexibility and jumping performance in basketball players, the t-test statistical technique was employed. The hypothesis was examined at a 5% level of significance. The data for this research was gathered from 30 basketball players from the Department of Physical Education, Guru Kashi University, Talwandi Sabo, Bathinda, Punjab. Assessments were conducted using the Sit and Reach test for flexibility and the Vertical Jump test for jumping ability. Baseline (pre-test) measurements were taken prior to the implementation of the training program, and follow-up (post-test) data was recorded immediately after the completion of the program.

Table 2: Pre and Post-test of Flexibility of Experimental Group (Sit and Reach Test)

Group	Mean	S.D	M.D	T test
Pre-test	17.27	1.87	5.86	4.75
Post-test	23.13	3.56		

Interpretation

Observed t-value (4.75) exceeds tabulated value (2.14), indicating a statistically significant improvement in flexibility due to the training program.

Materials and Methods

The study employed a simple random experimental design. Based on baseline testing, participants were assigned to either an Experimental Group (Group A) or a Control Group (Group B). Group A underwent a specialized six-week (45-day) training regimen, while Group B maintained their usual physical activities without any additional intervention.

The training schedule for the Experimental Group consisted of sessions held six days a week in the evenings. Initially, sessions lasted for one hour per day, gradually increasing by 15-minute intervals every two weeks, ultimately reaching 90 minutes in the final phase. The control group continued with standard training routines, including recreational activities such as badminton.

Both groups performed a warm-up of 15–20 minutes prior to training sessions. The Experimental Group followed a structured, targeted training plan designed to enhance flexibility and vertical jump capacity.

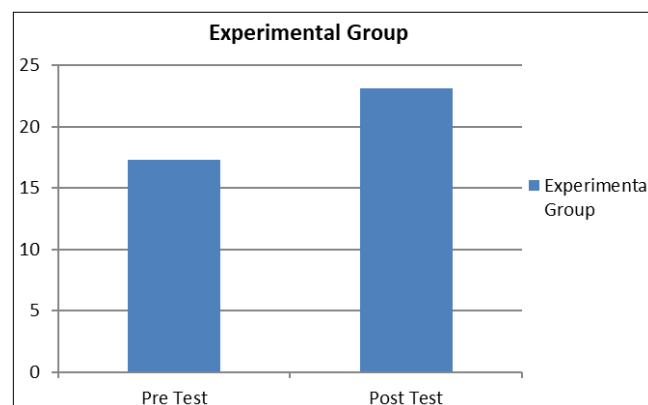


Fig 1: Graphical representation of Pre and Post-test of Flexibility of Experimental Group (Sit and Reach Test)

Table 3: Pre-test and post-test of control group sit and reach (Flexibility)

Group	Mean	S.D.	M.D.	t-value
Pre-test	18.07	1.91	0.53	0.59
Post-test	18.6	3.27		

Interpretation: Calculated t-value (0.59) is below the critical value (2.14), suggesting no significant change in flexibility.

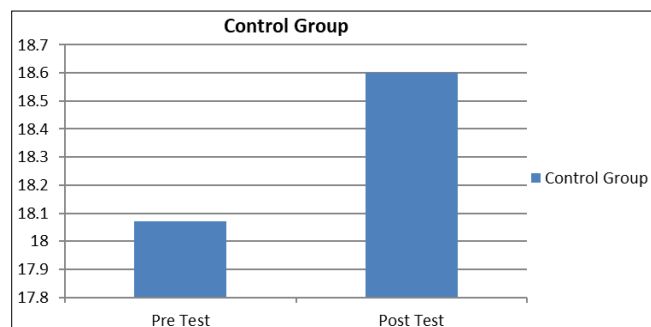


Fig 2: Graphical representation of Pre-test and Post-test of Control Group Sit and Reach Test (Flexibility)

Table 4: Comparison of Post-test Scores Between Experimental and Control Groups (Sit and Reach Test)

Group	Mean	S.D.	M.D.	t-value
Control	18.6	3.56	4.53	9.31
Experimental	23.13	3.27		

Interpretation: The significant t-value ($9.31 > 2.05$) confirms a notable improvement in flexibility among the experimental group compared to the control group.

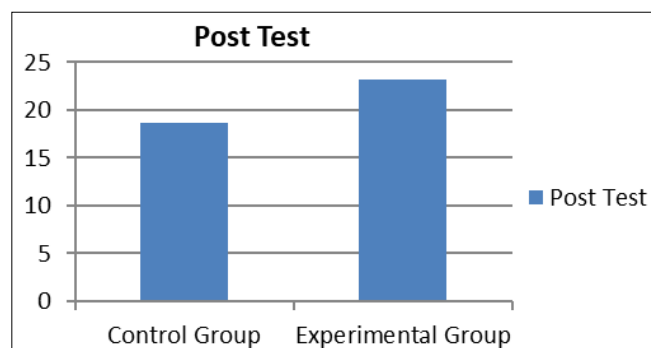


Fig 3: Graphical representations of Post-test Scores between Experimental and Control Groups (Sit and Reach Test)

Table 5: Pre-test and Post-test of Experimental Group Vertical Jump

Group	Mean	S.D.	M.D.	t-value
Pre-test	30.25	1.28	1.11	0.072*
Post-test	29.14	1.92		

No meaningful improvement in coordination was observed after training.

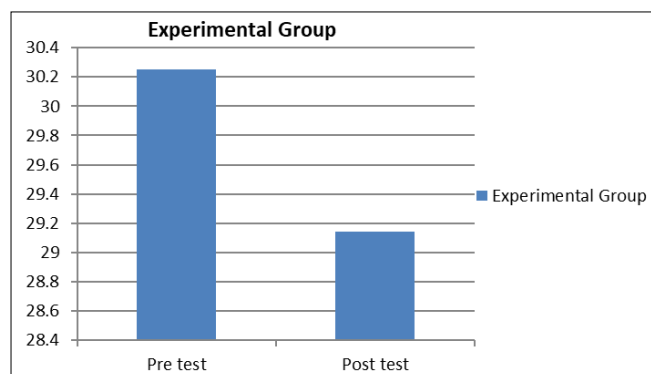


Fig 4: Graphical representations of Pre-test and Post-test Experimental Group Vertical Jump

Table 6: Difference between Pre-test and Post-test of Control Group Vertical Jump

Group	Mean	S.D.	M.D.	t-value
Pre-test	29.62	1.89	0.82	0.26*
Post-test	28.81	2.01		

Interpretation: No significant change in coordination was found.

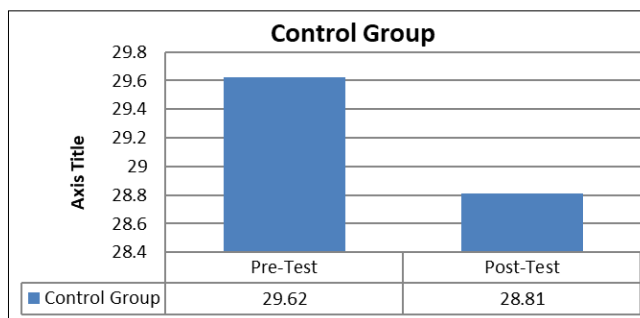


Fig 5: Graphical representations of Pre-test and Post-test Control Group Vertical Jump

Table 7: Post-test Comparison Between Control and Experimental Groups Vertical Jump

Group	Mean	S.D.	M.D.	t-value
Control	28.81	2.01	0.33	0.65
Experimental	29.14	1.92		

Interpretation: The post-test vertical jump scores show no significant difference between the two groups.

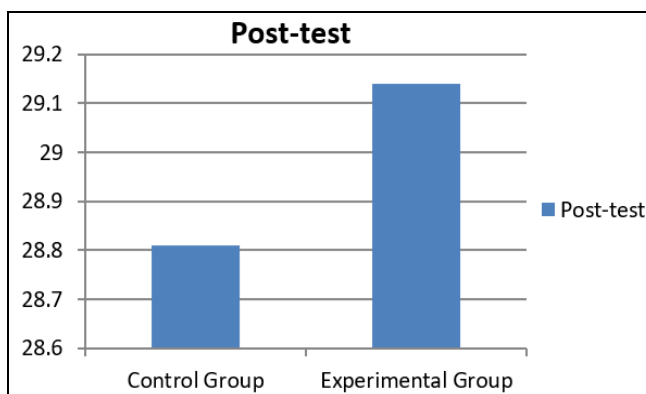


Fig 6: Graphical representations of Post-test Control Group and Experimental Group Vertical Jump

These findings suggest that the selected exercise program was effective in enhancing flexibility and jumping ability, possibly due to the specific nature of exercises chosen.

Findings

The hypothesis stating that selected exercises would enhance flexibility in basketball players is accepted, as statistical evidence supports this. The hypothesis that selected exercises would improve jumping ability is accepted, as significant changes were observed.

Conclusions

The selected exercises significantly enhanced flexibility in basketball players.

The experimental group showed marked improvement in flexibility due to the training program.

The selected exercises should improve jumping ability.

The experimental group showed significant improvement in jumping ability.

Coaches and trainers aiming to enhance flexibility in basketball players may incorporate the exercise methods used in this study.

Future studies could explore variations in age, gender, and athletic level.

Repetition of this study with a larger sample size is advised to enhance validity and generalizability.

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